



# Times

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Saturday, January 16, 2010

www.forterietimes.ca

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## Icy water doesn't scare brave 'dippers'

Kris Dune  
Times Staff

Freezing water temperatures clearly isn't something that will deter people from jumping into the lake.

Last Saturday marked the first annual Polar Bear Dip and Chili Cookoff hosted by the Crystal Beach Business Improvement Area (BIA) and it is being considered a huge success by its organizers, considering over 50 people participated and about \$1,200 was raised for local food bank Community Outreach Program Erie.

"It went as good as we could have hoped for," said co-organizer and BIA member Phil Smith.

Over 50 gallons of chili was consumed and hun-

dreds of non-dippers still came out to see all the action, prompting Smith to mention how special of a "grass roots" event this will become when it likely continues as a local tradition, starting this year at the Bertie Boat Club in Point Abino.

"I would say for sure we'll do it again next year," said Smith.

Stephanie Heron, a 21-year-old participant, said it was a great time and that the frigid temperatures didn't intimidate her, considering she dipped in a similar event a few years ago.

"Your body adapts pretty quickly. It's more of an adrenaline rush than anything," she said as supportive friends wrapped her in towels after her third dip.

continued on page 2



Warld 1 Coun, Sandy Annunziata at last Saturday's Polar Bear Dip and Chili Cookoff at the Bertie Boat Club in the Point Abino Area. In its first year, organized by the Crystal Beach Business Improvement Area, about \$1,200 was raised for Community Outreach Program Erie, along with several non-perishable food items. About 40 people took the plunge and enjoyed several homemade chili recipes to warm themselves up.

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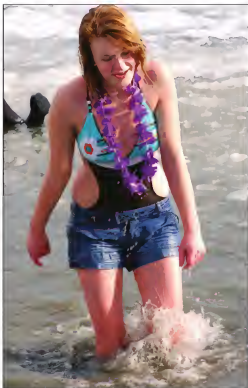
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Stephaine Heron, 21, on her way out of Lake Erie after her third dip last Saturday.



Kristi Anderson-Burgman, left, and Linda Jones cooling off at last Saturday's Polar Bear Dip and Chili Cookoff at the Bertie Boat Club, hosted by the Crystal Beach Business Improvement Area.

## 'I feel like a fresh, tingly mint,' says participant

continued from page 1

Linda Jones has also tested her limits before taking the plunge in previous Polar Bear Dips. She said it is always refreshing and leaves you feeling renewed and ready for anything.

"I feel like a fresh tingly mint," she said.

"It's kind of like a baptism, a new year's resolution of sorts," she added.

Ward 1 Coun. Sandy Annunziata, who also braved the icy water, knows what testing your body's limits involves, considering he spent 11 years in the Canadian Football League, playing many games in the heart of an Alberta winter during his time with the Edmonton Eskimos.

"I've had a few people tell me I was crazy to get into provincial politics but I think this officially confirms it," he said referring to the fact he will be running for MPP in this year's provincial election.

First place for the Chili Cookoff was awarded to "the two Megans" who describe themselves as "two independent chilli lovers with a dream."



Nuno Mendes, left, of Fort Erie Fire Department station no. 6 being served a warm bowl of chili from fire inspector Kellie Kubik last Saturday.

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## Police warn about car break-ins

Over the past three weeks, unknown persons have been responsible for a string of thefts from vehicles within around town. Members of the Fort Erie detachment are actively investigating these incidents

and would like to take a moment to remind citizens to remove all valuables and be sure your vehicles are locked at all times. This would greatly assist in preventing these thefts from taking place.

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# Ontario NDP leader uses Fort Erie as venue to challenge hospital restructuring

Kris Dube  
Times Staff

Hospital restructuring in Ontario is well underway, but citizens and politicians opposed to the idea aren't giving up without a fight.

On Tuesday, the Douglas Memorial site on Bertie Street was used as a venue for a small rally organized by Ontario NDP leader Andrea Horwath with about 40 concerned residents from Fort Erie and beyond who listening to and applauding the provincial party leader for her opposition to Local Health Integration Network (LHINs) across Ontario, who have been implementing the closures of emergency rooms in the province since late last year.

Horwath challenged the provincial Liberal government for its actions, saying its health care restructuring efforts are putting Niagara residents at risk and in danger, instead of providing a better quality of care.

"It means you and your families and the broader communities are put at risk in terms of your access to health care," she said at a crowd consisting of local councillors and members of the Yellow Shirt Brigade citizens group.

She said she will continue to fight on behalf of the people who she claims are not being heard by Dalton McGuinty's Liberals and believes a number of efforts still in progress could turn the situation around, pointing out Niagara Falls MPP Kim Craitor's request to the chief coroner's office into the a fatal accident on Boxing Day in Fort Erie and an investigation by the Ontario ombudsman into the LHIN's decision making process.

"We do still have things ahead of us that can help us win this fight," she said.

Horwath feels residents have a right to know that medical help will be available in their communities when a loved one becomes ill or injured, saying less attention needs to be paid on providing a "tax giveaway to some of Ontario's richest corporations" and more focus needs to be given to a reasonable solution for health care in Ontario.

"It's time to get our priorities straight. We can't afford another round of corporate tax giveaways if it means losing local health services," she said.

Malcolm Allen, Welland's member of parliament who is also an NDP attendee the event, saying residents have deserved more input in the entire process and that the Niagara Health System (NHS) and the LHIN needs to take the concerns of the community more seriously, giving them a voice in the matter.

"They just don't want this imposed by the LHIN," said Allen.

Dr. Thoppl Abraham, who practices out of Welland also spoke at the brief rally. He cited a situation in Saskatchewan from a few years ago where a similar restructuring plan was implemented and then overturned because it proved to not be effective and had a negative impact on the delivery of medical services. He

said this should be used as an example in this area.

"We can learn from the mistakes of other people," he said.

"We have to stand up together and we have to unite together," he continued.

Another person who attended the event was Lawrence Thomas, whose 87-year-old husband was admitted to the Welland County General Hospital about two weeks ago after being told his condition was untreatable at the Douglas memorial site. She has to drive to Welland to visit him, something she finds very difficult in the weather conditions Fort Erie has seen recently.

"It's just unbelievable," she said.

Joy Russell, an active member of the Yellow Shirt Brigade said it was "wonderful" to have Horwath come to Fort Erie and speak about what the local citizens group has been fighting for since it was formed shortly after the NHS released its hospital improvement plan in 2008.

"It shows we're not alone and our numbers are growing. Hopefully something good will come from this," said Russell.

Niagara Falls MPP Kim Craitor also attended. He said he is used to hearing negative comments towards his party's plans for health care and has shown his own opposition to a lot of it along the way. Although he disagrees with some of McGuinty's ideas, he still feels all three major parties are trying to do what is best when it comes to the delivery of health care services in small communities like Fort Erie.

"I really believe all three parties want to improve health care," said Craitor.

"But there are some things being proposed by the government for Douglas Memorial that I don't think are appropriate," he added.

He admits it might seem unusual to some that a Liberal MPP would attend and support what was being

said at a rally organized by an opposing party, but this issue is something he holds very close to him.

"I was there because I want to continue showing my support."



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Saturday, February 13th

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'Boo' the cat, a south end resident spent two nights atop a hydro pole on Courtwright Street last week after its owner believes it was chased there by a coyote.

# Adventurous cat returned home to loving family

Kris Dune  
Times Staff

What could have potentially ended as a sad story for pet lovers has ended much differently... and 'Boo' the cat is safe and at home with his loving family.

Last Thursday, Cheryl Hebbourn, a Courtwright Street resident, noticed 'Boo' the cat did not return from the indoors after his usual time outside and she grew worried. Her ten-year-old son Conno had just returned from representing Fort Erie as a member of a local hockey team that played a tournament in Denmark and wanted to see his friend. They heard his cries and realized he was in trouble. Upon further investigation, they found him sitting atop a hydro pole down the road from the family home and did not want to come down.

The fearful feline spent nearly two days without touching the ground, after Hebbourn believes it was frightened by a predatory attack from a coyote. She immediately called the Fort Erie SPCA, who spent several hours on scene hoping the cat would build enough confidence to return to ground level.

Roy Pastorius, general manager of the local SPCA said he and his staff did everything they could to provide a happy ending without any complications. Since the SPCA and the local fire department are restricted when it comes to acting in situations like this for safety reasons, Pastorius said it is unfortunate more couldn't have been done immediately but remaining on site for as many hours as possible was definitely in the plan.

"We knocked ourselves out all day long," he said before a Niagara Falls resident who

"We empathize with the owner, but safety is our number one concern."

**-Kristine Carmichael**

heard about the situation visited the scene with his bucket truck, coaxing the fearful feline down from his temporary hideout.

"It ended on a good note and we're all glad the cat is safe," he said.

Kristine Carmichael, general manager of customer service and corporate services for Canadian Niagara Power said safety is always first priority for staff and removing the cat would have been too dangerous for employees of the local hydro company.

"We empathize with the owner, but safety is our number one concern," she said.

Carmichael also confirmed that CNP does not intend to press any charges against the man who helped coax the cat down from the pole.

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The Yellow Shirt Brigade

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## Snowflake Dinner & Dance Party!

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## Sewage pumped into Lake

Be aware that on Wednesday and Thursday, January 6 & 7, 2010 a collapse of a portion of a local sanitary sewer resulted in a sewage by-pass from the sanitary sewer system to the environment. The by-pass of sewage flows occurred in the vicinity of the Crescent Road and Phillips Street intersection. This action was necessary in order to prevent basement flooding in the adjacent residential areas.



# Powerful earthquake hits home for some local residents

MATT DAY  
Times Staff

It's been a disaster that has rocked the whole world.

The 7.0-magnitude earthquake that hit Haiti's capital city of Port-au-Prince has left the whole world scrambling.

Through the news, one can hear many horror stories of people trapped in buildings, the severe lack of medical aid and bodies lying in the streets.

But for those who have family and friends staying in the Caribbean island, all they want to know is if their loved ones are OK.

Martha Mason, the executive director of the Fort Erie Multicultural Centre, said the least her organization can do is try to keep the lines of communication open.

"We have some telephone numbers for the United Nations and some key crisis providers who can provide some information to those here in Fort Erie wanting to know about loved ones there."

She said it was "very important" to provide as much help as possible to the estimated 150 Haitian immigrants who are living in Fort Erie.

"Their whole lives are impacted from this," she said. "We want to let them know that we are available and this isn't a nine to five job anymore for us."

Mason said most people who watch the news are looking at an overall look at what's going on, but those who are directly affected by the earthquakes want to get information on certain neighbourhoods.

Other Fort Erie organizations have been quick to lend a helping hand. Intercede International, which is an organization that helps serve indigenous ministries in more than 50 countries including Haiti, has pledged to provide as much medical aid as possible.

The international organization based on Stanton Street has partnered with Agape in Florida to send shipments there, which in turn will be sent to Haiti.

They're the poorest country in the western hemisphere and have no supplies or structure to deal with something like

this," said Intercede's president James Eagles. "It's completely devastating and they are relying on the international community to help as much as they can."

He said the advantage in getting many smaller organizations and church groups to offer support is that they tend to reach out to people on a personal level and will send workers to the heart of the disaster to help on the ground.

With communication lines tattered, people are relying on word of mouth and social networking sites to stay as up-to-date as possible.

As of now, the death toll is projected to surpass the 100,000 mark. There are 6,000 Canadians living in Haiti.

The Canadian government has pledged \$5 million in aid to the Haitian government.



## RIDGEWAY PUBLIC GOES GREEN

Marian Gibbons, the District School Board of Niagara's school waste reduction co-ordinator, stands with some students from Ridgeway Public School after presenting some interesting facts about garbage and the environment to the student body. The school was awarded a \$1,000 grant from Green Apple to help in the purchase of reusable drink and food containers. The school is planning on becoming completely litterfree on Feb. 1. Pictured above, from left, are Gibbons, Colton Clause, David Stewart, Preston Ebersole, Hannah Mulleboom and Maddie Kendrick.

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Weekdays: Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

**Have you  
HEARD?**  
by Alaina Miller, M.C.  
Interview with  
Autologics

## A WAKE-UP CALL

The World Health Organization (WHO) recently issued a statement concerning nighttime noise in European countries that the trend of the world may want to note. According to WHO, 20 percent of Europeans are exposed to excessive noise overnight that has the potential of damaging their health. The recommended limit of nighttime noise is an average 40 decibels, which corresponds to a quiet street in a residential neighborhood. The statement indicated that experiencing slightly higher noise levels may prompt some hearing and learning in bed, causing bouts of insomnia and other mild side effects. Levels above 55 decibels (the noise of a busy street) may cause listeners to experience more serious side effects, such as high blood pressure and heart attacks.

Our primary mission at **HearAgain! BALANCE & HEARING CLINIC** is to help as many people as possible improve their hearing and thus their lives. We hope to help the hearing impaired better enjoy the world through balanced technology, education, and friendly, compassionate service. For a knowledgeable understanding of the body's hearing mechanisms and a clear commitment to hearing what's available today to help each individual's hearing loss, we welcome you to visit our location. Call, text or e-mail us at 905-871-4242 to arrange a hearing test—the first step to better hearing. Office hours are M-F, 9am to 5pm.

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| <b>PORT COLBORNE</b> ,<br>Pt. Colborne HS, 211 Elgin St.<br>or call: 905-835-1186 x.231                                                                                                                              | <b>Tuesday, January 19</b><br>1:00 p.m., Room 321 |
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| <p>District School Board of Niagara<br/>Community Education Services, 905-687-7000</p>                                                                                                                               |                                                   |

**Opportunities**  
The Fort Erie Times



Firefighters from every station within the Fort Erie Fire Department were called to battle a blaze at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Ridgeway in February. Damage was estimated to be \$500,000. The Port Colborne Fire Department also assisted.

## January

Hundreds of people gathered in front of town hall for a rally to save the Fort Erie Racetrack a few days after 190 people were given layoff notices.

The Mayors Task Force worked diligently to preserve services at Douglas Memorial Hospital through meetings with Ontario's minister of health.

Aerosafe Technologies celebrated the 10-year anniversary of its partnership with Fort Erie Secondary School and its manufacturing and co-operative education program.

The Fort Erie Economic Development and Tourism Corporation offered to purchase the Fort Erie Racetrack for \$35 million from its owners Nordic Gaming, who continued to lose money at the 111-year-old border oval.

The Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network approved its integration decision to move forward with the Niagara Health System's hospital improvement plan.

## February

After a provincial approval of the hospital improvement plan, it was announced visitors to the Douglas Memorial site would be required to pay for parking.

Several local residents raised concerns about coyote sightings around town in urban areas.

Garrison Little Theatre opened up its production of "A Nice Family Gathering," by playwright Phil Olson.

Mayor Doug Martin travelled to Queen's Park to meet with premier

Dalton McGuinty to discuss the future of the Fort Erie Racetrack and Douglas Memorial Hospital.

Stevensville native Nick Weglarz was named to Canada's team in the World Baseball Championships.

Fort Erie resident Don McDonald was killed in the crash of Continental Flight 3407 in Clarence, N.Y.

St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Ridgeway is devastated by a fire that burnt it to ground.

**1891**

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**1892**

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**1937**

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## March

The Town of Fort Erie announced it will be moving forward with the Molinaro Group, a Burlington-based developer, to build two 12-storey condominiums at Bay Beach.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Fort Erie tallied its fundraising total for the annual Bowl for Kids Sake campaign, pulling in \$46,000.

It was announced the Fort Erie Racetrack would remain in opera-

tion for another year as track owners Nordic Gaming agreed to absorb a projected \$1 million loss.

The Niagara Health System begins implementation of the Hospital Improvement Plan by removing the ophthalmology department from Douglas Memorial Hospital.

Fire chief Jim Douglas hangs up his gear after 35 years with the Fort Erie Fire Department.

## April

Ontario ombudsman Andre Marin starts an investigation into the decision-making process of the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network (LHIN).

A handful of dog owners come forward saying their pets were attacked by coyotes. Two of the victimized dogs did not survive.

Gypsy Theatre celebrated its 20-year anniversary and showcased

their accomplishments at a town council meeting.

Former mayor Stella Ziff passed away at age 92.

A roundtable discussion, organized by the Town is held to discuss the presence of coyotes in urban areas around town.

Hundreds of people travel to Queen's Park in buses for a rally on hospital changes in Ontario.



Mayor Doug Martin with warrant officer Robert Dumelle, before he was deployed to Afghanistan, accepting a Town of Fort Erie flag to bring with him.

# 1938

**Rebstock's Insurance Office**  
210 Ridgeway Road, Crystal Beach  
905-894-2974

# 1942

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www.crawfordsls.com

# 1948

**D & W Upholstering**  
203 Niagara Blvd., Fort Erie  
905-871-5690

# 1949

**Beam Home Builders**  
Lawrence Beam, President  
• Custom Homes • Management Fee Contracts  
• Consulting • Additions & Garages  
Stevensville  
905-382-3751  
LBider51@aol.com

# 1951

**Fort Erie Community Credit Union Ltd.**  
201 Jarvis Street  
905-871-1552  
1201 Garrison Road  
905-994-1201

# 1952

**Miller's**  
AUTO RECYCLING  
1557 Bowen Road, Fort Erie  
905-871-4354  
www.millersauto.com

# 1953

**Ogilvie Chiropractic Clinic**  
710 Jarvis Street, Fort Erie  
905-871-2193

# 1954

**Fort Erie SPCA**  
Be sure to spay or neuter your pet.  
Help reduce the pet population.  
2010 Dog Licences are ready  
905-871-2461

# 1956

**McGregor-Miller Limited**  
Insurance of all kinds • Financial Services  
3701 Main Street East, Stevensville  
905-382-2431  
279 High Street, Fort Erie  
905-871-3623

# 1957

**Nicholl's Marine Ltd.**  
162 Niagara Boulevard, Fort Erie  
905-871-1965

# 1958

**Nigh's Sweet Shop**  
3757 Netherby Road, Stevensville  
905-382-2511



Niagara Regional Police officers arresting Dr. David Henry after a candlelight vigil at Douglas Memorial Hospital turned into a heated protest.

## May

The Fort Erie Racetrack opens for its 112th season.

Several Niagara doctors band together, requesting the provincial government to place a moratorium on hospital restructuring plans for Ontario.

Town staff completes its Ridgeway-Thunder Bay neighbourhood plan.

Three people are arrested at a can-

delight vigil at Douglas Memorial Hospital, including Dr. David Henry. Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School holds its 100-year anniversary with over 1,000 former students travelling from all over North America to attend.

Niagara Regional Police discover a body in the upper portion of the Niagara River.

## June

The Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative is implemented, requiring border travellers to present a passport or other acceptable documents.

Our Lady of Victory Catholic School is given \$4.6 million for improvements by the provincial government.

St. John's Stevensville United Church celebrates its 175th year of service.

The Relay for Life event at Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High

School's Pride Field raises \$81,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society.

The Town of Fort Erie and the Niagara Health System reach a two-year agreement for DMH to maintain its 'H' and operate as a 24-hour urgent care centre.

The second annual Dash n' Splash five-kilometre run was held to raise money for the Kinsmen Pool.

The Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre held its annual traditional powwow successfully, despite a last minute venue change.

**1963**

**Rich's**  
CARING FOR CUSTOMERS  
LIKE ONLY A FAMILY CAN™  
**905-871-2605**  
www.richs.com

**1964**

**Garrison  
Tool & Die**  
41 Russell Street, Fort Erie  
**905-871-2023**

**1964**

**Palm & Country**  
"Not Your Ordinary Food Store"  
2736 Stevensville Road, Stevensville  
**905-382-7878**

**1965**

**John's Shell  
Gas Bar & Car Wash**  
"Our Customers are the Best, No Fuelin'"  
260 Gorham Road, Ridgeway  
**905-894-2501**

**1967**

**Happy Jack's  
Restaurant**  
98 Niagara Boulevard, Fort Erie  
**905-871-3970**

**1969**

**Jack Shaw's  
Green Acres Service**  
Corner of Garrison & Pencil Roads, Fort Erie  
**905-871-1816**

**1970**

**Carroll's Bowling  
Lanes**  
7 Klauack Street, Fort Erie  
**905-871-0818**

**1970**

**McCooney's  
Bicycles & Vacuums**  
7 Dufferin Street, Fort Erie  
**905-871-PART (7278)**

**1971**

**Marr Electric  
Motor Service**  
50 Klauack Street, Fort Erie  
**905-871-3070**

**1974**

**Dr. Patricia Teal**  
238 Berrie Street,  
Fort Erie  
**905-871-6737**

**1974**

**Wilson Floor Design**  
Floors First, "Beautifully Meets Every Floor's Wish"  
**THE PAINT STORE**  
3840 Dominion Road, Ridgeway  
**905-894-2674**

**1975**

**May Wah  
Restaurant**  
90 Niagara Boulevard, Fort Erie  
**905-871-2422**

## July

The 23rd annual Friendship Festival kicks off for another year.

Crystal Beach Arts Festival draws 500 and showcases 45 artists.

Fort Erie native Tim Hudak was elected as leader of the Ontario Progressive Conservative party.

Swine Flia claims the first reported death in the Niagara region.

The 74th annual Prince of Wales Stakes had one of the most exciting finishes in history after Gallant

edged out Milwaukee's Appeal by a nose.

Local musicians Lowell Sostomi and Nate Hindle receive accolades from Canadian songwriter Gordon Lightfoot for their band the Great Bloomers' first full-length album.

Local runner, Jeremy Rae, brings home gold in the 1,500-metre at the Canadian National Junior Track and Field Championships.

## August

Central Avenue United Church is put up for sale after nearly 100 years of service.

Sandy Annunziata announces he plans to run for MPP in the next provincial election.

Border officials intercept more than \$20 million in cocaine at the Peace Bridge.

Larry Coplan is welcomed as the Town's new fire chief.

The Town of Fort Erie holds a

groundbreaking ceremony at the corner of Crescent Road and Phillips Street to officially start construction of the North Crescent Park Storm Sewer project.

Local wrestler Kenny Reichelt returns from the Canada Summer Games in Prince Edward Island with two medals: one gold and one bronze.

Local golfer Jack Gibson solidifies the top spot on the Niagara District Junior Tour.



Madison Lagace, 10, stands on the Peace Bridge on Canada Day to show her support for her country. She was one of about 100 people who walked to the International Boundary Line during the first annual Hands Across the Border on Canada Day. The event was organized to help extend our friendship to our neighbours across the river.

**1976**

**Peninsula Plastics Limited**  
620 Industrial Drive, Fort Erie  
Fax: 905-871-4811 • Website: [www.penplot.com/plastics](http://www.penplot.com/plastics)  
E-mail: [penplot@penplot.com](mailto:penplot@penplot.com)  
**905-894-1122**

**1978**

**Equine Forgings Ltd.**  
577 Industrial Drive, Fort Erie  
**905-871-7882**

**1978**

*The Williams Group*  
**Larry Williams**  
722 Ridge Rd. N., Ridgeway  
**905-894-1161**  
[www.williamsinteriorhinge.ca](http://www.williamsinteriorhinge.ca)

**1979**

**B. Patterson Chrysler Jeep**  
527 Garrison Road, Fort Erie  
**905-871-4461**  
CHRYSLER

**1980**

**Sun Life Financial**  
David C. Randall, CLU, RHE, RFC  
Insurance and Financial Services  
Fort Erie  
email: [david.randall@sunlife.com](mailto:david.randall@sunlife.com)  
**905-871-1492**

**1981**

**Aero-Safe Technologies Inc.**  
1767 Pettit Road, Fort Erie  
**905-871-1663**

**1981**

**J. Muro Plumbing & Heating Ltd.**  
1062 Garrison Road, Fort Erie  
**905-871-6705**

**1981**

**John's Ridgeway General Store**  
"All Goods Worth Price Charged"  
235 South Mill Street, Ridgeway  
**905-894-2661**

**1981**

**K. Riel Electric Ltd.**  
430 Gorham Road, Ridgeway  
**905-894-2229**

**1981**

**The Barrel**  
224 Garrison Road, Fort Erie  
**905-871-1167**  
Authentic • Fresh • Italian

**1983**

**Mildred M. Mahoney's Dolls' House Gallery**  
657 Niagara Boulevard, Fort Erie  
**905-871-5833**

**1984**

**D.W. Howard Realty Ltd.**  
384 Ridge Road, Ridgeway  
**905-894-1033**

## September

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 71 holds a rally at the Mather's Arch cenotaph to support our troops fighting overseas.

The Niagara Hawks Senior B lacrosse team advances to the President's Cup for the first time ever but failed to bring home any medals.

The Yellow Shirt Brigade created a TV commercial to be distributed to Canadian news channels in an effort to express concern about hospital

restructuring.

The Fort Erie Meteors kick off their 2009-10 season under newly appointed head coach Yvan Charrois.

The Douglas Memorial Hospital is converted into a 24-hour urgent care centre after more than a year of fighting to maintain services at the site.

The Cpl. Albert Storm playground is built at Waterfront Park in memory of the soldier.

## October

Ambulances get the green light to take non-emergency cases to the Douglas Memorial urgent care centre.

The announcement of stimulus funding from the provincial and federal government allow for the Fort Erie skatepark project to move forward.

Fourteen-year-old Daniel Jewson was awarded the opportunity to meet and shake the hand of the Dalai Lama at a conference where he spoke in Montreal.

Town and Regional councils show its support for the Canadian Motor Speedway Project by making amendments to their official plan

Fort Erie's 2966 Royal Canadian Artillery Cadet Corps is awarded the Philip C. Gainsham Memorial Trophy which recognizes the most proficient sea, army, or air cadet unit.

Well known community member Andy Passero is killed in an automobile accident on the QEW.



About 240 volunteers could be found at Waterfront Park in Crystal Beach building the Cpl. Albert Storm playground. The playground was built in memory of Storm, who was killed in Afghanistan in 2006.

### 1984

**Dr. Terry McKay,**

B.Sc., M.Sc. D.M.D.  
McKay Dentistry Professional Corporation  
170 Ridge Road, Ridgeway

**905-894-5555**

### 1985

**Big Brothers  
and Sisters**

20 Lewis Street, Fort Erie  
**905-871-8836**

### 1985

**BSL  
Business Success &  
Loan Centre Fort Erie**  
(formerly BDC)

45 Jarvis Street, Fort Erie  
**905-871-7331**

### 1985

PEACE BRIDGE  
**DUTY FREE**

www.dutyfree.ca  
**1-800-361-1302**

### 1985

**Vic Berg's  
Carpet Clean**

Stevensville  
**905-382-2565**

### 1987

**Garrison  
Tax Service**

3508 Walden Blvd., Fort Erie  
**905-871-8530**

### 1987

**Zellers Pharmacy**  
Gerard Longval and Ross Thompson,  
Pharmacists

200 Garrison Road, Fort Erie  
**905-871-6811**

### 1989

**BERTIE TIRE**

Locally Owned & Operated  
FULL MECHANICAL SERVICE  
2776 Stevensville Road, Stevensville  
**905-382-3173**

### 1989

**Mark Horne  
Carpentry Ltd.**

"Quality Homes, Additions & Renovations"  
Kitchener  
**905-894-3058**

### 1992

**Erie Personnel  
Corporation**

1202 Garrison Road, Fort Erie  
**905-871-2627**  
Fort Erie • Stony Creek • Thorold

### 1993

**Danolin  
Refrigeration**

Sales • Service • Installation  
**905-871-7939 or  
905-933-5900**

### 1996

**Garrison  
Muffler Centre**

Conveniently located next to Jack Shaw's  
1326 Garrison Road, Fort Erie  
**905-871-9800**



Karah Bannon and Mateya Schooley both got to tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas as the jolly old elf visited Santa's Fantasyland at the Opti-Mist Hall.

## November

Councillor Sandy Annunziata is chosen as an official torch bearer.

Local boxer Chris "Muffin" Agostino earns provincial title in a Bramford tournament.

Heroes of past and present honoured at Remembrance Day ceremonies at Mather's Arch.

Council approves skate park site between the town hall and YMCA.

The Santa Claus parade wows

spectators with a wide variety of entertainment for all.

Hollywood comes to Fort Erie when legendary actor Harvey Keitel stars in a feature film being shot at the Leisureplex.

Fort Erie resident Trevor Parkes is awarded the Canadian Hockey League's player of the week for his stellar performances as part of the Montreal Juniors.

## December

Supporters of the Canadian Motor Speedway gather at the Quarter Mile restaurant before a record setting council meeting with 57 delegations, lasting nearly seven hours.

It is announced the Fort Erie Racetrack will operate as a non-profit organization after the provincial government contributed \$5.6 million.

Peace Bridge plans get back on track with five new design concepts

being announced.

The Olympic Torch relay ignites a sense of community pride during its tour through the town.

The annual Spirit of Christmas celebration took over downtown Ridgeway for two days.

Local 18-year-old Reilly Anzovino is killed in a tragic accident along Highway 3 on Boxing Day.

A 15-year-old female missing from Georgia is located at the Peace Bridge.

**1996**

**Prime Cuts Meats**

Garrison Shopping Village  
(beside I-205) Fort Erie  
**905-994-1775**

**1998**

*atrum*

Certified Estheticians & Skin Care Specialists  
Registered Massage Therapists  
1485 Garrison Road, (inside Holiday Inn)  
**905-871-4141**  
atrumspa@telusnet

**1999**

**Durward, Jones,  
Barkwell & Company LLP**

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
1264 Garrison Road, (Park Plaza), Fort Erie  
**905-871-3565**

**2002**

**Benner Funeral Services Inc.**

Funeral Home  
**905-871-0444**  
Darren Plagg, Funeral Director

**2003**

**Gord's Fort Erie Driving School**

3860 Dominion Road, Ridgeway  
**905-894-9041**

**2003**

Jesse & Kelly's  
**No Frills**

1135 Thompson Road,  
Fort Erie

**2004**

**Grapes On The Ridge**

"Serving People with Good Taste"  
3707 Hibbard Street, Ridgeway  
**905-894-6029**

**2004**

**Mrs. O's Pharmacy**

**PHARMASAVE**  
Michael Rabold, Pharmacist  
118 Jarvis Street, Fort Erie  
**905-994-0200**

**2004**

**Peters Excavating Inc.**

3976 Bowen Road, Newmarket  
**905-991-1313**

**2005**

**Goodness Grapes**

66 Idlewyde Place Fort Erie  
**905-994-9463**  
"Where Fine Wines Are Born"

**2007**

**Digital Motion Productions**

Digital Slideshows & Video Transfer  
3309 Cherry Avenue, Ridgeway  
**905-894-1178**

**2009**

**Venus Jewellers**

Lady and Prince Specialize in  
Customer Service & Satisfaction  
14 Jarvis Street, Fort Erie  
**905-871-2713**